

CONSTABLE JOHN ANDERSON, R. I. C. (VERDICT).

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 12 August 1877;—for,

RETURN "of the VERDICT and COPY of EVIDENCE taken by the CORONER
of the City of Dublin at the Inquest held on the Body of Constable
John Anderson, R. I. C., at Steeven's Hospital, in the City of Dublin, in
the Month of September 1878."

VERDICT.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

AN INQUEST taken and held before me NICHOLAS C. WHYTE, Her Majesty's
Coroner for the county of the city of Dublin, on view of the body of constable John
Anderson, now lying dead in Steeven's Hospital, in the parish of St. James, in said city,
this 14th day of September 1878, on the oaths of the following persons, good and lawful
men of the county of the said city:—

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|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. William Scery. | 8. William Caldwell. |
| 2. Patrick Coady. | 9. Alexander Carmichael. |
| 3. John Mallett. | 10. Richard O'Brien. |
| 4. John Neill. | 11. James McCheskey. |
| 5. Peter Nolan. | 12. Thomas Cogrove. |
| 6. Patrick James Healy. | 13. Caleb Payne. |
| 7. James Cullen. | |

Gentlemen,

You shall well and diligently inquire and true presentment make on behalf of our
Sovereign Lady the Queen, how, and in what manner the said constable John Anderson,
now here lying dead, came by his death, and such other matters relative to the same as
shall be lawfully required of you, and true verdict give, according to the evidence laid
before you.

We find that the said constable John Anderson, died in Steeven's Hospital on the
11th September 1878, in consequence of disease of the brain and kidneys, and that his
death was hastened by his removal from the county Waterford to Dublin, and we have
no evidence before us to hold anyone responsible, but we condemn the system under
which he was removed; also the physicians not understanding the nature of his disease
until too late for remedy, they being for some time of the opinion that deceased was
a malingering; and we consider the attendance in the ward where deceased was confined,
far from efficient.

Signed on behalf of self and fellow jurors,
William Scery, 4, New Kilmainham.

Nicholas C. Whyte, Coroner, 19 September 1878.

We recommend the widow and children of the deceased to the consideration of the
authorities.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

William Scery.

EVIDENCE.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of ELIZA ANDERSON, of Stradbally, county Waterford, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 14th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

The deceased, John Anderson, was my husband. He was a constable in the Royal Irish Constabulary, and was last stationed at Stradbally. He was 50 years of age, 50 years of which he spent in the constabulary service. He was sent up to Stoeven's Hospital on or about the 28th August last, by order of his superiors. He has left seven children aged respectively 21, 19, 17, 15, 12, 8, and 5 years. They are all girls except one aged 8. I have seen the body of my husband in the dead house of Stoeven's Hospital. Deceased was 14 years in charge of the station at Stradbally. He was subject for the last three years to "modified epileptic fits." It was Dr. Walker, of Bonmahon, that called them modified fits about three years ago. He was unfitted temporarily for duty by these fits. When he got a wetting or a cold he always got a fit within a day or two. He was treated at various times by Dr. Walker, Dr. Currie, of Lismore, Dr. Kirwan, of Kilmacshommas, who is surgeon to the police, and also by a doctor in New Ross whose name I forget. Dr. Kirwan made a report to the director general concerning the health of deceased. I did not give permission to have a post-mortem examination made on the body of my husband. My consent was not asked. I would not have given it. I was shocked when I heard it was done. About 14 years ago, on the 11th of October 1864, my husband got a blow or blows on the forehead whilst he was on duty at Dunsgraven. He suffered from pains from those injuries for five years. He suffered more or less from them ever since. He enjoyed excellent health previous to his receiving the injuries. He was anxious to retire when he completed his 30 years' service of the 18th May last. He was then entitled to full pension. Deceased was not worse than usual when he was sent up to Dublin. I have no doubt that he would now be alive if he was left at home in my care. He looked forward to living upon his pension and resting for the remainder of his life.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Eliza Anderson.

Recalled.—The first fit my husband had was whilst attending a fire on the 22nd December 1874, when on duty at about 9 or 10 in the morning. It was at Ballyboyle in his own district. Dr. Kirwan saw him on that occasion. The next fit he had was in May, 1875. He had a fit before he came to Dublin, about a week before. He had an attack in last June and was released from duty then on Dr. Kirwan's certificate. I came up to Dublin in consequence of a telegram sent to Revd. Mr. Hanna, of Stradbally. I arrived at the hospital between 10 and 11 o'clock on Thursday night. Mrs. Coe then first told me of my husband's death. I asked to see his corpse but was told he was in the dead house, and that there were other bodies in the dead house. It was Mrs. Coe told me this. She also told me if I came at six in the morning I could see my husband's body. I came about seven o'clock and the man at the gate showed me in, and I got into one of the wards where I asked a person could I go to the dead house, and he told me to go to Mrs. Coe. I then went to the constabulary depot and got head constable O'Connor to come with me to the hospital. When I came I saw Mr. Coe, the nurse, and he said I could see the body. I then asked to see the body. After 11 o'clock I was let into the dead house and saw my husband's body. I wanted to put hand round his head and Coe would not allow me. "What is this?" I said to Coe. "It is a blister," said he. "Oh, no it isn't," I said. I wanted to see the body, but he lifted the cloth and allowed me to catch hand. Coe said, "When he is in his coffin you can come in and see him." He said the body was not washed because he had not a nice shirt to put on him. There was no other body there then but that of my husband. The letters produced are from my husband to me dated 31st August 1878, and 5th September 1878.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Eliza Anderson.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of WELLINGTON COLOMB, of 23, Leeson Park, in the Parish of St. Peter, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 14th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am Assistant Inspector General of Constabulary in Ireland. There is no rule requiring a post-mortem examination to be made on the body of any constable of the Royal

Royal Irish Constabulary. The constabulary authorities require the cause of death to be reported. No application, so far as I am aware, was made to have a post-mortem examination in this case.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

W. Colenso, A.L.C.

The retention of a man in the force who may be subject to fits, depends altogether upon the medical report of his case.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

W. Colenso, A.L.C.

Recalled 19th September—said: I attend and produce the documents called for by the coroner, and to give any explanation in my power.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

W. Colenso, A.L.C.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of **ANDREW W. KIRWAN**, of Kilmacothomas, County Waterford, taken before me, **Nicholas C. Whyte**, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 17th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am physician and surgeon, and district surgeon to the police in my neighbourhood. I made a report concerning the health of the deceased John Anderson. I then, on the 12th August 1878, considered him suffering from cerebral anæmia. He had various other intercurrent affections. I considered him unfit for duty at the time I made the report, totally incapacitated mentally and bodily, and certified that if he were coming to Dublin he would require some one to take charge. On the 31st July 1878, I reported him totally unfit for further service in the Royal Irish Constabulary. On the 14th June 1878, I certified him unfit for duty, and recommended exemption from duty for two weeks. On the 28th June 1878, I recommended a further exemption from duty of a fortnight, as he was still suffering from the same complaint, cerebral anæmia. On the 12th July I gave a similar certificate for a similar exemption from duty. On the 26th July 1878, I certified him unfit for the duties of the R. I. Constabulary. I attended deceased at various times for the past four and a-half years. He was in fact a patient all that time. I considered that his fits were due to serous apoplexy. I found no symptoms of heart disease. When I last saw him after my last report, he was what I would call a shattered man. I considered tranquillity of mind and body essential to his treatment. A course of treatment that would be likely to shock his system would be emphatically injurious to him. Any shock, an electric shock, would be likely to be fatal to him in my opinion, assuming that my diagnosis was correct. If he was accused of malingering I think it would have a particularly prejudicial effect upon him. He was conscientious and sensitive, and incapable of malingering. Anxiety of mind would be prejudicial to him. I never saw any symptom of malingering about him. The two first occasions I saw him I could not come to any conclusion as to his case. For four years I had no doubt on my mind as to the nature of his disease—cerebral anæmia. His symptoms were such as to require the utmost acumen of the profession to investigate. I saw him in a fit; I did not consider it epileptic, because it was without the muscular contractions, and the absence of a scream. When I last saw him I considered him past the reach of medical aid. If he had been left in tranquillity I think he would have lived longer. I was shocked when I heard of his death. I did not anticipate his immediate death.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

A. W. Kirwan.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of **RICHARD W. EGAN**, of 15, Talbot-street, in the Parish of St. Thomas, taken before me, **Nicholas C. Whyte**, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 17th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am a physician and surgeon. By the directions of the coroner I came to St. Steven's Hospital on yesterday to examine the remains of constable John Anderson. Accompanied by Dr. Johnston, the house surgeon, I went to the dead house and saw the remains. The body had been made the subject of a post-mortem examination, and owing to that fact, and other facts communicated to me by Dr. Johnston, I considered that I should be unable to derive any reliable information from a further examination. I merely made an external examination of the body. I was informed that I could not examine the brain as it had been removed, also that the kidneys had been removed. Dr. Johnston offered to submit the kidney tube for examination. I declined to examine it because I was not in a position

position to know if it had been the kidney of the deceased. The body was sewn up when I was offered a kidney to examine. This took place about mid-day yesterday. I got every facility for making my inspection. A microscopic examination of the kidney would facilitate the diagnosis of the disease. It is usual to remove portions of a body for further examination when an examination is made for criminal purposes.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Richard W. Egas.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE EXAMINATION OF EDWARD HAMILTON, of 120, Stephen's Green, West, in the parish of St. Peter, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 17th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, and surgeon to Steeven's Hospital. The deceased constable, John Anderson, was admitted on Tuesday the 27th August 1878 late in the day. He came under my care on the following morning, and so remained until his death on the 11th September 1878. Dr. Johnston, the resident surgeon, prescribed for him before I saw him. I examined deceased and saw Dr. Johnston's prescription, which was the bromide of potash mixture. I followed up that treatment under the impression that deceased was suffering from epileptiform fits. The bromide of potash is a sedative, and is considered a specific against such fits. Deceased was put upon full diet. He remained under the same treatment from the time of his admission until the following Sunday, the 1st September 1878. I saw him in a fit on that day. The fit was extremely like epilepsy. Some of the patients, constables, were holding the deceased to restrain muscular movement, which is one of the ordinary symptoms of epileptic fits. Some of the usual symptoms of epilepsy were absent. I increased the dose of the bromide and combined it with a tonic. This should have the effect of allaying irritation of the brain. This was continued for some days, and not having all the effect desired, I altered the treatment. I then gave small doses of calomel, and applied a small blister to the top of the head. Seeing that the symptoms were somewhat obscure, I called in Dr. Bookley, the physician on duty on the 4th September. We made a most careful examination of all the organs of deceased. Absence of sensibility is a well-known characteristic of epilepsy, and it was most important to discover the existence or non-existence of sensibility. We considered it desirable to apply galvanism slightly to determine the point; applied as it was it could have had no prejudicial effect.

I was not present when the galvanism was applied. It was done by Dr. Bookley, who has made the subject of galvanism an especial study. After ascertaining the existence of sensibility, I was better able to form an opinion on the case, and I then came to the conclusion that these fits were due to a disease of the kidney. Epileptiform fits are frequently a consequence of renal or kidney disease. The evidence of the wife of deceased, that a wetting or a cold brought on such fits would strengthen my opinion as to renal disease. I still considered the case an obscure one. I further consulted Mr. Collis, senior surgeon to the hospital; he approved of the treatment. I also got Dr. Le Clere to see deceased, and he approved of the treatment. I never during the entire time treated the deceased for malingering or shamming.

Finally, I came to the conclusion, that deceased died from disease of the kidney, but I was unable to verify my opinion without a post-mortem examination. In the case of the constabulary, it is necessary to send in a certificate as to the cause of death to the constabulary authorities. I was not present at the post-mortem examination. I saw a portion of the organs which were reserved for microscopic examination. These portions were in the custody of Dr. Bookley, who made the post-mortem examination. The post-mortem examination was made on Thursday the 12th, the morning after his death at 11 o'clock. The post-mortem examination was made in the interests of science and for the purpose of forming a conclusion as to the cause of death. There was no organic disease of the brain that we could detect. The portion of kidney I saw was extensively diseased. It was chronic disease of the kidneys was the cause of death. This disease was sufficient to account for the epileptiform fits that I observed during lifetime. I saw the deceased every day. Deceased never complained of his treatment in hospital. I could not have shown him greater attention and kindness than I did. I produce the bed ticket which contains a record of his treatment. It was solely and only in the interests of science that a p. m. was made. I could not without such examination have made a full and proper report of his disease. In discharge of my duty I have made post-mortem examinations on the bodies of some members of the constabulary who died in this hospital. I consider it my duty in obscure cases to ascertain the cause of death. It was at my request the post-mortem examination was made in this case. Post-mortem examinations are made on others as well as constabulary patients, where no expression of dissent is made by the relatives. From the bed-ticket, I perceive that death took place at five minutes to 11 o'clock, p.m., on the 11th September 1878. I would not approve of autopsy being used in his case. I never intended to convey to Dr. Johnston my opinion that deceased was a malingeringer. I never expressed a positive opinion that deceased was a malingeringer. If deceased had at any time asked me to discharge him from hospital, I should have done so. Standing at the bedside on one occasion,

occasion, Dr. Le Clere said, "what about malingering?" and I answered, I did not say he was malingering. This was in the hearing of deceased. It is the rule to communicate with the relatives of a patient dying in hospital. I had not the slightest idea that any inquest was likely to be held in this case. At first examination, I thought deceased might recover.

Nicholas C. Wylie.

Edward Hamilton.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE EXAMINATION OF MURTAUGH O'BRYEN, of Portlaw, County Waterford, taken before me, Nicolas C. Wylie, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 17th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am sub-inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary. The deceased, John Anderson, was under my command, and was constable in charge of Stradellly station. He came under my command about two years ago. On the 23rd August last an order came to me from County Inspector Heard, being an order from Inspector General Hillier, directing that, if the district doctor thought it safe that constable Anderson, the deceased, should come to the depot at Phoenix Park, he, constable Anderson, should proceed to Dublin for that purpose, also directing that, if the doctor thought it necessary another constable should be sent with him. The deceased came accordingly on the 25th August 1878, accompanied by constable Delany.

Examined by Coroner.]—The deceased was well conducted, truthful, and intelligent. He was a man in whom the magistrates of the district placed implicit confidence.

Examined by Coroner.]—I came to Dublin on leave of absence on private business on the 25th August 1878. On Friday afternoon, the 30th August, I came to Steeven's Hospital to see the deceased. On entering the ward, and asking for constable Anderson, one of the patients pointed him out to me. I saw him lying on the floor, on the bare boards, just as a drunken man, insensible, would be thrown. There was a pack bed or pallet just behind him, and there was a pillow standing on end, as if to shut him out from the next bed. He was totally naked from the hips to the armpits, his shirt being about his neck and shoulders. A blanket was drawn across his legs. I spoke to him calling him by name twice, the second time louder than the first. William H. Coe, now here present, came up at the time, and began to explain that everything was done for the deceased. I had not addressed Coe at all. Coe also added that the men the patients paid deceased every attention. I replied that I saw no attention paid to him; that had he been a wounded prisoner in a Russian tent he could not have been treated with more indifference. Before I made that remark Coe said the man was not as bad as he pretended to be, and that he, the deceased, was shamming. I said I did not believe he was shamming, as he was an honest respectable man, and incapable of doing anything of the kind, and that I knew he had been suffering from attacks of the head for the past year and a-half. Coe then told me he would bring me down to the house surgeon if I liked. He named Mr. Johnston as the house surgeon. I was brought to Mr. Johnston's room. I said to Dr. Johnston, I regretted to see the state Anderson was in; that he was a constable of mine, and that I was sub-inspector of his district. I said I was very much amazed to see him in the neglected state he was in. Dr. Johnston said the man was not as bad as he appeared to be; that he was shamming; that he had not epilepsy; that if he had he'd fall suddenly, without an effort to protect himself, and that the deceased put his hand before him when falling; and that he was a malingeringer. I said I did not believe it; that he deceased was a respectable man, and above a thing of the kind, and that he had to my knowledge had repeated attacks of the head. Dr. Johnston said that the constabulary generally, when they came into this hospital, were scheming. He (Dr. Johnston) said Dr. Hamilton was an old and experienced doctor of many years' practice, and that Dr. Hamilton said that constable Anderson was "malingering" and then "scheming." I told him I did not believe it. Dr. Johnston said, "That being so, why did you not put him out before he put in his 30 years?" I replied, "That is outside your consideration altogether; with that you have nothing to do; your duty is to treat the man when he comes into this hospital." He repeated again that the man ought not to be allowed to put in his 30 years. I said, "If this man suffers from neglect, you'll have a row about your ears, for there are men of influence who will look to his protection." Dr. Johnston used the words "malingering" and "shamming" repeatedly. I then left the hospital, and returned on the following day, the 31st August 1878. When I came on the following day I asked for the deceased, and was told he was out in the yard. I saw deceased lying with other men under a shed in the hospital yard. He was sensible. He looked weakly. I had a conversation with deceased and left the hospital. I again visited the hospital on the 9th September 1878, about two o'clock in the afternoon. I saw deceased in the ward in bed. He was unconscious. I laid my hands on his forehead and arms, and found him clmy cold, and damp. I asked for Coe. After a time Coe came, and I asked him how long had deceased been in that state. Coe said "from that morning." I asked Coe if he thought the man had

consciousness, and he answered he thought he had, and that he, the deceased, was not as bad as he appeared to be. Coe said then, "you should not have kept the man in the force until he put in his 30 years." "You said," said he, "this man had fits." I answered, "I never used the words fits, I said, he had head attacks. I said, when Coe persisted that I said fits, 'you're impudent to say so.' I then went to Dr. Johnston, and said, 'Do you now think this man is shamming?' He answered, 'I do not now, but I did think so, but he should not have been kept so long in the police.' I asked, 'Do you think the man will recover?' and after some hesitation, Dr. Johnston said, 'I don't think he will, but at any rate he'll never be fit for the police.' I returned again next day, and saw deceased in a stupor and evidently worse. I found his forehead, arms, legs, and feet glowing with a feverish heat. I asked Coe what was the cause for the change in his skin. He replied in a curt, disrespectful manner, 'I'm no doctor.' I saw deceased on the next day, the 11th of September, for the fifth and last time. He was quite unconscious and dying. I said to Coe, 'Don't you think the man will die during the night?' He (Coe) answered, 'Perhaps he may live till morning, perhaps beyond that.' Coe also said again, that it was unsafe to go on duty under this man. I telegraphed to the wife of deceased when I was informed of his death. I was informed at the hospital, that the orderly officer had reported to the authorities this case. I never kept back any information respecting the deceased from the authorities with a view to enabling the deceased to complete his 30 years' service, and I never said so to Dr. Johnston. The man himself, told me, that he had completed his 30 years' service in May 1878, after he had so completed it. In my conversation with Dr. Johnston, it was he, not I, that first used the word 'malingering.' I never said, 'Do you say the man is malingering,' at any time. When Dr. Johnston asked why I did not put deceased out of the service, I would not answer him, because it was not his province to ask.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Martine O'Brien, &c.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE EXAMINATION OF RICHARD JOHNSTON, of Steeven's Hospital, in the parish of St. James, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner, for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am a duly qualified and registered medical practitioner. I am house surgeon to Steeven's Hospital and have been so for 12 months. I recollect the evening of the 27th August last. I saw the deceased constable, John Anderson, and prescribed for him. He told me he was suffering from epileptic fits, and I gave him the bromide of potash mixture. He became Dr. Hamilton's patient on the following morning. There was no alteration made in my prescription by Dr. Hamilton. Unless in emergency I had no more to do with him, but I do know he was treated properly for the disease I thought him to be suffering from. I was called to him by nurse Coe on Sunday, 1st September 1878, and found deceased in a fit, which did not appear to me to be epilepsy. Deceased answered to me during the fit that he did not know what was the matter with him, and from that I came to the conclusion that he was not suffering from epilepsy. I ordered mattresses to be placed on each side of the bed to prevent him injuring himself if he fell out. Almost immediately afterwards Dr. Hamilton saw him and directed the medicines to be continued in increased doses. Dr. Hamilton, Dr. Boakey, and Dr. Le Clere saw him in consultation. A change was made in the treatment, which was duly carried out and was continued to his death. I never in any way interfered with the treatment ordered by Dr. Hamilton. I considered this was the proper treatment. As far as I know deceased received every care and attention. I am of opinion that journey shortly before his death would have accelerated his death having regard to the disease which caused his death. I recollect Coe bringing Mr. O'Brien to my room. We had a conversation about the deceased John Anderson. Mr. O'Brien said deceased was subject to apopleptic fits. I said, "as far as my experience goes he is not suffering from apoplexy." Mr. O'Brien said, "if it is not apoplexy it is epilepsy; a doctor in the country says so." No report of the man's case has ever been sent to the hospital from the constabulary, nor is any report ever sent that I know of. We have to grope and examine for ourselves into the cause and nature of his disease. I said to Mr. O'Brien, "I don't care what the doctor in the country says, it is not epilepsy he is suffering from. He has been seen by doctors Hamilton, Boakey, and Le Clere, and they know what they are doing." Mr. O'Brien then said, "do you mean to say the man is malingering." I said, "if he is not malingering he is exaggerating his symptoms very much." This was at the time I believed he was shamming epilepsy, having regard to his own statement, and the nature of his fits. I afterwards came to the conclusion that my diagnosis was wrong. At no time was the deceased treated as a malingeringer. Mr. O'Brien said he had known deceased to have had those fits for three years, and I said, "It's an extraordinary thing you'd keep a man in the force who was suffering from fits for three years." He said that was the doctor's business, and that he, Mr. O'Brien, had tried to correct the deceased so as to enable him to put in his full time of 30 years. I was present when Dr. Boakey applied galvanism for the purpose of differential

differential diagnosis. It was used as a test of disease. It is usual to notify to the friends of patients when they are in danger of death. With regard to the constabulary, an orderly officer visits every day and asks if there are any complaints. In the absence of the visiting staff I am in charge of all the patients in the hospital. There is at all times during the day an orderly constable on duty in the hospital. There were present at the post-mortem examination Dr. Bookley, Dr. Warren, and myself, and a number of students. There were no preparations made for the p. m. examination until Dr. Hamilton came in the morning. Dr. Bookley made the post-mortem examination. On Monday, when Dr. Egan came to the hospital, portions of the kidney and the brain had been removed and had not been restored. I did not tell the constabulary officer that Dr. Hamilton had applied any infallible test, or that Dr. Hamilton said deceased was malingering. I stated it as my own opinion that the fellow (the deceased) was malingering and putting it on very thick. When I heard from the coroner that an independent post-mortem examination was required I said every thing should be ready, and I waited in on Sunday until four o'clock to meet any medical man that might come. I had to leave, and I desired the nurse to keep the key until I came back. When I had the conversation with Mr. O'Brien he said he'd make me hop. In my opinion deceased died of disease of the kidneys. The brain affection was a consequence. I never made a post-mortem examination of ordinary patients without the consent of the friends or the coroner's order.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Richard Johnston.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of RICHARD BOOKLEY, of 28, York-street, in the parish of St. Peter, taken before me Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am one of the physicians of Steeven's Hospital. I saw the deceased constable Anderson in consultation with Dr. Hamilton. On first examination I was unable to come to a conclusion as to his disease. I considered it desirable to use galvanism for the purpose of diagnosis. It never occurred to me that deceased was a malingerer. I applied galvanism to the deceased as a very slight form, about a week before his death. The galvanism could not have the slightest ill effect on the deceased. I am of opinion that galvanism would have had a curative effect upon the deceased, but it was applied for the purpose of diagnosis, not for testing whether he was a malingerer. I made a post-mortem examination of the remains of deceased. I conclude that Bright's disease of the kidneys was the cause of death. Repeated wettings would be likely to cause this disease. As far as my judgment goes the journey undergone by deceased in coming up to Dublin hastened his death.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Richard Bookley.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of EUGENE LE CLERC, of the Depot, Phoenix Park, Dublin, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am surgeon to the constabulary. I remember constable John Anderson. He was reported unfit for duty by the doctor of the district where he was stationed, and on seeing the reports, I recommended that he should be sent to Dublin for examination, if Dr. Kirwan was of opinion that he could travel without danger to his life. This is the usual custom. This was on the 18th August 1878. On the 27th August Anderson came up to the depot and I examined him at 11 o'clock a.m. and found him so unwell that I ordered him to hospital at once without delay. I sent the usual docket with him. I marked cephalgia as his complaint. When the man came to Steeven's Hospital I bed down with him. I come frequently to the hospital, as is my duty, to see that the men are not malingering, and happening to be in the ward one day, and Dr. Hamilton and Dr. Bookley seeing me brought me to the bed of deceased, but I did not offer any opinion on his case. He was then insensible, and I said to Dr. Hamilton, "Now what about malingering?" I never said deceased was malingering. Any constable who is able to come, must come before the surgeon of the force, or a medical board. After 30 years' service in the force a constable is entitled to retire on full pay if he be invalided on medical certificate. If he goes without the certificate he gets only two-thirds. After the deceased had been sent to Steeven's Hospital I wrote to Dr. Walker, of Broomahon, in reply to one from him inquiring about deceased. In that letter I mentioned that there was a suspicion that deceased was malingering. On Mr. Sub-Inspector Carter's report being submitted to me I went to Steeven's Hospital and saw the deceased John Anderson walking about with the constable who had been sent to take care of him. On the representation

presentation of Dr. Johnston who told me that he did not require any help. I withdrew the man. I acknowledge the report produced dated 3rd September 1878, as mine, also recommendation dated 19th August 1878.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Eugene Le Clerc.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of ALEXANDER SMITH, of 12, Parliament-street, in the parish of St. Werburgh, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am a physician and surgeon, and a registered practitioner. I attended the hospital on Sunday last the 15th, together with Dr. Auchinleck, to examine the body of the deceased, John Anderson. The porter at the gate said, Dr. Johnston had the key of the dead-house with him, and that he was absent at Lansdowne Road. We could not get access to the body.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Alexander Smith, L.R.C.P. L.R.C.S.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of WILLIAM H. COE, of Steeven's Hospital, in the parish of St. James, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am nurse in charge of the constabulary wards in Steeven's Hospital. I am 14 years in the hospital. I am a pensioner from the constabulary. I first saw deceased, John Anderson in the ward, walking about at about seven or eight o'clock, p.m. I took his name and age. It is my duty to report any fit a patient may be seized with to any doctor in the house. Previous to Mr. O'Brien's visit, I did not know of deceased having a fit in the hospital. At no time was deceased on the bare floor that I know of. I gave deceased bread and butter of my own and tea. He was not allowed it by the doctors. I always treated deceased with kindness and attention. I am not a pensioner; it was a mistake if I said so. I resigned from the force. I sell tea to the constabulary patients here, also bread and butter, and eggs and meat. It is with the consent of the medical staff. I do not sell whisky or other drink to the patients. I sell it to the gentlemen. I never sold whisky to a constabulary patient. The charge to the constabulary patient is three half-pence a cup for tea. I charge 4½ d. and 5 d. for the 2 lb. ordinary loaf of bread. I charge 9 d. the half pound for butter, and 1½ d. per egg. I never at any time reported to Dr. Johnston that deceased was in a stupor, except on the 1st September, which was the first time I saw him in that state. It was my duty, perhaps, to report to the house surgeon any unconsciousness I saw in a patient. I am absent for four hours two days in each week, wheeling the invalided husband of the matron of the hospital. I receive no pay for this. It is the matron who has the power to give me leave of absence.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

William H. H. Coe.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of SAMUEL CARTER, of Depot, Phoenix Park, Dublin, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am sub-inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary. I acknowledge the report produced, dated 2nd September 1878, as mine. I was orderly officer on that day and visited Steeven's Hospital. I saw the deceased John Anderson, constable. He appeared to be in a state of stupor. I put several questions to him which he answered incoherently. Two or three of the other patients told me they had been in charge of him, and that they were not able to take care of him so he used to get into violent fits. Dr. Johnston was present. Dr. Johnston said deceased was feigning epilepsy. He subsequently said in his own room that he and Dr. Hamilton had subjected him to the most infallible tests, and that they had come to the conclusion that "the fellow was malingering." The contents of the report are true. I made the report in order to have two constables sent to take care of deceased. Deceased appeared to require great care to keep from injuring himself. The man was in a state of stupor, and it was from what the other men said that I considered he required care.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

S. E. Carter, S.I.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of PATRICK LYON, of Deptt, Phoenix Park, Dublin, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn on oath, said,—

I am sub-inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary. I am on the sick list at present I was a patient in the ward with deceased constable John Anderson. On one occasion Coe, the nurse, sent me to look for deceased, who had left the ward, and no one knew where he was. I found deceased down near the kitchen, in the underground passage. He was in the dark and we discovered him by lighting matches. He said he was trying to find his way out. Two constables were sent to take charge of deceased on the 2nd September and stopped out night. When Coe sent me to look for deceased he did not come himself but sat chatting with the patients.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Patrick Lyon, s.c.

I saw the deceased fall out of the bed on to the bare floor on several occasions.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

Patrick Lyon, s.c.

COUNTY OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, TO WIT.

THE examination of JOHN BRENNAN, of Steeven's Hospital, in the parish of St. James, taken before me, Nicholas C. Whyte, Her Majesty's Coroner for the County of the City of Dublin, this 19th day of September 1878, who, being duly sworn upon oath, said,—

I am sub-constable in the R. I. C. I object to answer the question whether I purchased whisky from nurse Coe, as it might criminate myself. I am a patient in the hospital.

Nicholas C. Whyte.

John Brennan.

CONSIDERABLE JOHN ANDERSON, M. D.
(VERDICT).

REPORT of the Forensic and Corps of Dissection
taken by the Coroners of the City of Dublin on
the Inquest held on the Body of Considerable
John Anderson, M. D., at St. Vincent's Hospital, in
the City of Dublin, on the Week of September
1904.

(No. Dublin.)

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